

## TOM'S TRIAL.

## Old Man Williamson Proves a Drawing Card in the Criminal Court Room.

## Several Witnesses Examined and the Case Now in Full Blast—the Testimony as far as Taken.

The spacious and splendid criminal court room was crowded with lawyers, officials, witnesses, press representatives and spectators when the trial of Thomas Williamson, charged with the murder of the Moores, was begun at 9 o'clock this morning. Judge J. E. Ryland, presiding with his accustomed dignity. To start with, this case is one of the most notable in the criminal annals of Missouri and this fact coupled with the fact that the public curiosity and interest are invariably enlisted when a deed of blood has been done, has served to attract unusual interest to this case, for it is a bloody one.

Notwithstanding the great crowd present, Sheriff Smith and his efficient deputies found no trouble in the way of disorder. The people were intent upon catching every word of the evidence, though the testimony thus far has been but a repetition of the same old story of a horrible crime of blood.

Prosecuting Attorney George Longan, and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Prigmore, occupied one side of the long table. Opposite them sat the lawyers for the defense—Messrs. E. J. Smith and John Cashman. Immediately in the rear of these latter gentlemen sat the defendant, the features of his face thin and pale and drawn, partly from long imprisonment and largely from anxiety as to the outcome of his case. His eyes were always eager to note every movement, and his ears were strained to catch every syllable of the testimony. At his side sat a pleasant appearing gentleman, well dressed and having the manner of a quiet, sober kind of an individual. His resemblance to the notorious prisoner is quite striking. The cut of the beard is the same, the deep sunken eyes are the same; and the prominent cheek bones, the nose, the mouth, the tall, slim body and the general expression and manner. This stranger was perhaps the most interested spectator in the house, for he is a brother of the prisoner. His home is in Kansas, and he has been here since Tuesday. Official Stenographer Quisenberry, with his instrument, sat close up to the witness stand.

In the jury box were twelve of the most highly respectable men of Pettis county. In their keeping rests the fate of the defendant, and if he does not get a fair hearing and an impartial verdict, certain it is that these peers of the realm will not be to blame. Their names are Francis A. White, Louis Lower, Peter Dump, Jacob J. Farner, Cord Lujin, Albert P. Hyatt, Richard H. Smith, Anson Dulmage, Andrew J. Patton, Stephen Hironymus, Francis M. Jackson, John T. Greer.

DR. W. C. OVERSTREET was the first witness on the stand. He gave in detail the time and circumstances of being called as coroner to view the remains of Jefferson Moore and of his son, Charles Moore. No testimony other than that which has already become familiar to the public, was elicited from the gentleman.

## LEE CHAMBERS.

Knew Jefferson Moore.—Lived a mile southwest of their farm. First time I suspected anything, was when I went down there one day, saw Williamson there. He and I took a walk over the place. Could see where dirt had been hauled away. I went over to the farm again, Williamson and I went to the house. He showed me cellar. I saw where dirt had been thrown. He said that he was going to clean cellar out. I asked him where Jeff. Moore was. He said he had gone to some springs. He wanted to hire me to work for him. He wanted me to stay all night with him. He said Moore might be back in a week or a month. Sunday I met Williamson going to town. I was at farm shortly after Jeff. Moore's body was found. It was found in cellar, face downward. I had seen Jeff Moore alive a week before. Saw defendant last on Sunday, coming to town.

The stock on farm was 3 head of mules, one horse, two cows, one calf and some hogs. Supposed they belonged to Jefferson Moore. The bed was taken out of Moore's room, with this exception the room appeared as usual. I was working for a man named Stephens. The Moore house had three rooms. The room where the bed was taken out was the middle room. Williamson, when I met him coming to town Sunday, said he was going to have the men who searched his house in his absence, arrested. Saw him that Sunday night at the Salvation army. Was acting with

the Salvation army people. He was standing up singing. Saw him no more till he was in jail.

## HENRY BESEKE.

I knew Jeff Moore. He lived 200 yards from my father's. I remember circumstances of the killing of the Moores. Last time I saw Jeff Moore he was sitting out in the yard under a tree. It began to rain and he went into the house. I was there on Monday when the body was found. I recognized the dead man. He was lying with his face down. Had blanket thrown over him. Had on shirt I saw Williamson haul the dirt to the cellar. It was about daylight, a week before the bodies were found. The bed was taken apart and lying on the floor. The bedclothing was bloody.

## ASBURY GOODNIGHT.

Have known Thomas Williamson since last March. Last May Charlie Moore came down into my field where we were planting corn. A few days afterward he and Williamson were cutting wood down in the timber near my house. The next time I saw Charlie Moore was when we dug up his dead body. I saw Jefferson Moore and Williamson at Moore's house. My father and I went there to borrow a harrow. Williamson was present. We asked Jeff Moore where Charlie Moore was, but Jefferson Moore could not tell where he was. Jeff Moore was in poor health. Was not able to do any work. Had been in this condition five or six years. That was the last time I saw him alive. I saw Williamson then out in the field. The next time I saw Jefferson Moore he was lying dead and partly buried in the cellar at his house. This was on Monday. I took a shovel and dug away the loose dirt from over the body. I first found his head. It was naked. He was a bald headed man. We had sent for the coroner and when he came we took the rest of the dirt off the body. The body was face downward. The legs were in the deepest part of the dirt. Perhaps two feet deep. The arms were thrown out. The under jaw was broken, back part of skull broken in. It looked like it had been done by a hatchet or club. There was a hatchet, an axe and a hickory club three feet long on the porch. Jefferson Moore was about fifty-six years old. Two hours after we found the old man we found the body of Charles Moore. Old man Moore had a silver watch. [Watch given witness and partially identified.] Never saw Williamson with a watch, have lived in the neighborhood 31 years. The Moore's had lived there five or six years. Was intimately acquainted with them. Charlie Moore was about 26 years old. Moore's moved from Sedalia. Ad Funk, a nephew of old man Moore, lived there two summers. George Moore and John Bonner and wife also lived there awhile with the Moore's. They occupied a separate room. They lived there a short time prior to Williamson's coming. Jefferson Moore married after he located there. Mrs. O'Bannon (Mrs. Moore) lived there a year previous to the tragedy. Prosecuting Attorney Longan first suggested that the premises be searched. My father informed the neighbors that Mr. Longan said to search the place. I was in the house the evening before the bodies were found. I wanted to see about the Moores. I had heard that the Moores had been killed. Mr. Brenicke, a neighbor, told me. I think I saw the heap of dirt in the cellar Sunday evening—the day before body was found. Cellar never had been walled up. There seemed to be a good wagon load of dirt in the cellar. The entrance was partly closed by it. It would take a person half an hour to unload the dirt from the wagon. We found Charlie Moore's body a short distance from the house. The last time I saw him, he and Williamson were clearing brush near the house. Charlie was buried in this ground, on a little rise.

## MRS. MARY FUNK.

Jefferson Moore is my brother. In May, 1890 he lived three and one-half miles south of Sedalia. I have no acquaintance with Williamson. He lived with my brother three months. I saw Williamson the 26th of May. He came to my house and asked for George Moore. He said Jefferson and Charles had gone to Montrose and would be back that evening. That was on Monday—the day the bodies were found. [Silver watch shown witness and identified as Jefferson Moore's.] I saw the watch three years ago. My brother loaned it to me to keep for awhile. I afterwards saw it several times in his possession. I recognized the chain also. Williamson came to my house once before my brother's death. He was moving past my house. His wife was with him. Williamson told me Monday morning when he called at my house that he was accused of murdering the Moores. He said: "I will be so glad when they get back from Montrose." He

said he would go away and be back in an hour. My brother's health was very poor. He was a cripple. He had been in that condition five or six years. He was almost helpless.

## MRS. REBECCA N. ARNOLD.

Born and raised in Morgan county. Work in Sedalia. Did not know Jefferson Moore. Got acquainted with Williamson; been acquainted with him since last July a year ago. He often came to see me. We talked about being married. I was in Morgan county when killing occurred. He had run in a debt at boarding house where I stayed. We went on Wednesday night to Salvation army together. He said: "I expect I will be arrested this week." He said Charlie Moore, out on Flat creek, was missing, and they suspicion me. He said Moore had gone to Illinois two weeks before. He told me to watch the papers and keep him posted about affairs. Wednesday night, as we were going to the army he said: "Becky, I've got something for you, and offered the watch." [Filed to identify watch.] At last I took the watch, but it worried me. I never slept any that night. I examined the watch the next morning and thought I had seen Charlie Moore have it once. I gave the watch and some badges he had given me, to the officers. He told me he had got \$400 from his pap in Illinois and had bought out the Moores. He gave me some notes and said he wanted me to take them and redeem the property. [Notes shown witness. Didn't have her "specs" and couldn't read the notes. A pair of glasses were borrowed from a gentleman in the court room and she thought she identified the handwriting of the notes, as Tom Williamson's.] I had the spotted fever when 11 years old. Am blind in one eye. One side paralyzed. Am forty years old. Have been married twice. Both of my husbands are living, as far as I know. Left me in Morgan county six years ago at my daddy's. Married again two years ago in Sedalia. That husband also left me. Tom Williamson and me talked about marrying, but I never intended to marry him, because I didn't have too. We frequently took it by spells to attend the Salvation Army. I went to the Baptist church with him one night. I was working at Mrs. Sprague's on South Ohio street. Williamson took his meals there, an slept in Lawyer Sampson's barn. He said he had six hogs out on Flat Creek to kill and would then pay for his board. He said he would pay some in wood. He also had some cattle, he said. This was a little while before Charlie Moore and Jefferson Moore were missing. He was then engaged in chopping wood in the country and would come in nearly every day. I went to Morgan in March and came back May 11. I went with him to the Salvation army twice after that. He never beat no drum, but I heard him pray and testify when we went there. He also sang and went through the usual motions. This was when he told me Charlie Moore was missing. The reason I didn't want the watch he offered me was because I ain't got time to fool with a watch. I don't know how to wind it up and didn't know nothing about it.

## R. W. BARNETT.

Knew Thomas Williamson. Was deputy sheriff last May. I identify watch and chain given me by Mrs. Funk on Monday evening in May. I identify the notes also. Have been deputy sheriff ever since that time. Have conversed with Williamson in regard to the killing of the Moores. I made no threats or promises. He answered in reply to my questions. It was a few minutes after he was locked up—the day that he was arrested. I also had seen him that day at the Salvation army barracks, but he was then in no condition to talk. He said he didn't commit the murder, but assisted in burying the bodies. I saw him next morning. He stated that he and Charles Moore were working in a field near the house and they had a falling out and that Moore tried to strike him with a stick and he killed Charles with an axe. A short time after that he said the old man got mad at him and threw a smoothing iron at him and he killed Moore. The day the bodies were found I saw Williamson at the Salvation Army. He was lying on a cot and in a partial stupor. He talked weak. I did not see him take any medicine there. This was 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Saw him that evening in the jail. I asked him if he knew me. He said he did. He told me he knew who killed the Moores. He said the trouble between him and old man Moore occurred about the absence of Charlie. This happened sometime in the night. He told me that after he struck the old man with an axe he buried him in a cellar. He told me he had been promised \$300 for burying the bodies of the Moores. I can't call to mind their names now. It was, I



## ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, head-aches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.  
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

think, some of the neighbors who made this offer.

## SHERIFF ELLIS R. SMITH.

I was sheriff in May, 1890. Am acquainted with deponent. Has been in my keeping since May, 1890. Have conversed with Williamson in regard to the killing. It was voluntary on his part, if he had anything to say to me. He first told me he hadn't killed these people, but he knew who did. Finally he made a written statement to me. (Confession read, in which Williamson stated that he killed Jefferson Moore about in the way as already narrated.) The part relating to the killing of Charles Moore was as follows: Williamson and Charlie had got into a quarrel while clearing up some ground. Charlie threw a chunk of wood at him and then ran. Defendant then chased him and killed him with an axe, burying him on the spot. Williamson told me that Charlie Moore was quarrelsome. The written statement was dated June 6, 1890.

## Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

## Mechanics' Lien Law.

The senate judiciary committee, says the Jefferson City Tribune, has recommended a change in the mechanics' lien law which is a matter of no small concern. While the present law is intended to protect workmen and persons who furnish material, it is frequently used as a screen behind which a dishonest contractor can fortify himself and defy justice. He bears no equal share of the responsibility of paying his workmen the wages due them. For example: A man may let a contract for building a house and pay the contractor every cent due him, and unless the contractor has paid his employees in full, as well as the parties furnishing the material, both can come in and file liens on the property and hold the same until all claims are settled.

The bill reported by the senate committee is not for the purpose of recovering what is due them, but to afford the property owners some protection from dishonest contractors. It is proposed to make him share the responsibility of paying his employees. If he is paid in good faith and no notice of has been served, then his employees become equally interested with the property owner in compelling him to discharge his obligations. The bill was introduced by Mr. Stone and has received careful consideration at the hands of the committee.

Hot Springs Skin Soap being prepared principally from the evaporated waters of the Hot Springs of Arkansas, is delightful for the toilet. For sale by Aug. Fleischmann, corner Fourth and Ohio.

Mertz & Hale, 210 Ohio.

O. W. Smith, 916 East Third.

## Eaten Up by Wolves.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Feb. 4.—Indians who arrived from Lake Winnipeg yesterday report that 18 Indians, men, women and children, were eaten up by ravenous wolves, which gathered in a band numbering probably 200. Two men escaped.

## WANTED.

Any information concerning Elizabeth Hickman, daughter of Henry and Mary Hickman, who resided in Sedalia in 1875 will be suitably rewarded by addressing J. H. Dillon, Le Grande, Oregon. 1-30d2wlt

## BELIEVE THEY'VE GOT 'EM.

## Two Burglars Thought to be "Kid" Davis and His Pal, Under Arrest.

The Kansas City Times of to-day says: The notorious "Kid" Davis and his pal, R. G. Morley, known as the "Country Cousin," are believed to be again in custody.

Davis and Morley are two of the most dangerous and expert burglars and safe blowers in the country. They were captured in this city about two months ago by ex-officer W. Sarver with a trunk full of stolen property. The arrest was made at a lodging house on East Twelfth street, just as the pair were carrying their booty up stairs from a hack. The property in the trunk was principally silks and jewelry stolen from a store they had burglarized at Higginsville. The stuff was identified and officers from Higginsville took the two burglars to the jail at Boonville to await trial. About a month ago they escaped with others.

A few nights afterward the post-office at Greenridge, Mo., was broken into and the safe blown open and a large quantity of stamps and money stolen. The wife of Davis, a small back-eyed woman, was arrested at Sedalia a few days later, and in her possession was found nearly \$200 of stolen stamps. The property was traced to her possession by her efforts at selling the stamps. Mrs. Davis is now in jail here awaiting United States grand jury action.

Yesterday Inspector McClure of the postoffice department received a telegram notifying him of the arrest, at some point in Texas, of two burglars, believed to be the "Kid" and Morley. Mr. McClure is confident that he has the right parties and called at the police headquarters last night for the photographs of the two crooks, which he mailed on to Texas to aid in the identification of the prisoners. The description of the two tallies exactly with that of Davis and his partner.

If it should prove to be them, they will be tried on charges of post-office robberies and after that will still have the Higginsville burglary to answer for.

## Kakakau and the Mind Reader.

Mr. E. P. Winans a guest at the Willard hotel, Kansas City, yesterday speaking of the late King Kakakau said: "I remember hearing a good story on the king which is worth relating."

The story was told me by J. Randall Brown, the first among modern mind readers. Brown was the man who initiated Bishop into the secrets of mind reading. He visited the Sandwich islands and while there King Kakakau, ever on the look out for something new tested the merits of the mind reader. One of the advantages of mind reading is that the mind reader is not obliged to understand the language spoken by the subject. He can detect the thoughts of the Spaniard, the Indian or the Chinaman. The king of the Sandwich islands tried to get ahead of the mind reader by doing his thinking in the native language, but Mr. Brown quickly translated the thoughts into English and explained the matter to the king. The king was then invited to secrete a button anywhere in the room. Instead of hiding it in the room he concealed it in his mouth. Brown was puzzled for a moment, but finally told the king that the button was in his mouth. Determined not to let the mind reader get ahead of him King Kakakau attempted to swallow the button. It was a task more difficult than his majesty had anticipated, and he narrowly escaped choking to death. His physicians and attendants were angry and indignant and blamed Brown, but the king recovering, the mind reader was allowed to leave the islands. Had King Kakakau choked to death on the button, Brown would have been fortunate in making his escape. As it was the king sent him a number of presents and complimented him upon his triumphs.

## A Picture of a Printer.

The Bazaar is in possession of a recent photograph of Justice Milo Blair, of this city. The artist has done an excellent piece of work and the lineaments and true presentment of the gentleman there set forth so very faithfully, are those of one who has played a prominent part in journalistic and other public affairs.

Milo Blair was born October 21, 1827, at Blair's bay, on Lake George, Washington county, New York—something over sixty-three years ago. He entered the office of the Grand Rapids, Mich., Eagle, as an apprentice to the printing business, on the 24th day of June, 1845, and worked in a printing office for thirty-seven years, as devil, compositor, and editor, retiring in 1882.

Mr. Blair was for one or two terms president of the Missouri Press associ-



## HEISKELL'S OINTMENT.

It has been in use many years, and has proved infallible in every case, from simple Pimples and Blotches on the face and Sore Eyelids to obstinate Eczema, Tetter and Itching Piles.

Sold by Druggists. 50 cts. per Box.

Send for Treatise on Skin Diseases and Certificates of Cure.

ation, and was universally and justly regarded as an able writer.

The BAZOO wishes him many years of usefulness and prosperity and that some day he may wander back again to the holy of holies—an editorial sanctum.

## Death of Mr. Cronan.

Patrick Cronan, a well-known farmer who resides five miles east of this city, died this morning of general debility. He was aged 73 years and leaves a wife and three grown children—Dan Cronan the well known railway employe and Mrs. Lucy Sheets, both of this city, and Mrs. J. S. Meyers, of Smithton. The funeral will take place to-morrow at 12 o'clock from St. Vincent DePaul's church, this city. Mr. Cronan had resided in this county for 23 years, and was an honorable, hard working and popular gentleman, whose death is much regretted, not only by his relatives, but a very large circle of friends.

## Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

## BOUND HAND AND FOOT.

## A Curious Story Told by a Young Married Woman of Duluth, Minn.

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 2.—In a lonely part of the city, in a small shanty, half a block from the terminus of the Fourth street line, Mary Cameron was found by a conductor of a street car, bound hand and foot. She was a young married woman, 22 years old. Her little four-year old girl gave the alarm which brought assistance. She tells a strange story. "Last evening" she said "I dreamed a man stood over me with a carving knife. This morning my husband, John left at five o'clock and I was alone with two children. About 6:30 a young man with black hair and a mustache knocked at the door and wanted something to eat. While I was getting something ready another young fellow, probably a Swede, came in. The latter seized me, while the other began searching the house. I was thrown down, bound with a rope, and the Swede stood over me with a carving knife, threatening to cut my throat if I screamed. After breaking into my trunk, opening my bureau drawers, and stealing everything of value they could find, one also struck me with a stick of wood."

The woman is young, rather good looking, with dark hair, blue eyes and a dreamy, far away look. The matter is involved in great mystery. The police are inclined to believe the husband tied his wife before departing for work. The day before a neighbor of Mrs. Cameron's accused her of stealing \$5 and an officer told her she should arrest her the next day if she refused to give it up. The chief of police thinks the woman resorted to a trick to get sympathy, but her two children, a girl of 4 and a boy of 3, insist that they saw the men disappear behind the house. Mrs. Cameron told your correspondent that the thieves took a silver watch and \$2.60 in money, but did not insult her. To the officer she said she had been outraged. Her face bears marks of a violent blow. The police are trying to solve the mystery, but without success so far. The fact that the children swear to the story of the woman makes it appear probable.

## W. D. STEELE, ATTORNEY AT LAW

SEDALIA, MISSOURI.

Office in Igenfritz building, corner Third and Ohio.

## Gilmer Gilbreath, Attorney-at-Law,

Room 26 Igenfritz Building,

1-14d&ly SEDALIA, MO.

DR. LE DUC'S PERIODICAL PILLS, FROM France, act only upon generative organs and positively cure suppression of the menses (from whatever cause) and periodical troubles peculiar to women. A safe, reliable remedy, warranted to promote menstruation. Should not be used during pregnancy. The large proportion of illness to which ladies are liable is the direct result of a disordered or irregular menstruation. Price, \$3, or three for \$8. American pill Company, Proprietors, Searles, La. The public and trade supplied with the genuine pill only by Otto W. Smith, 216 East Third St. Sedalia, Mo., wholesale and retail.